

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 185918
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INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1406

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185918

PASS TO NORMAL WULF

FOLLOWING REPEAT CARACAS 6647, ACTION BONN INFO SECSTATE
BRASILIA
JULY 17:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 6647

FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJ: LOS - REPLY TO AMBASSADOR WOLFF

REF: STATE 178149

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE LETTER IN PARA ONE BELOW TO
AMBASSADOR WOLFF.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR AMBASSADOR:

I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF JULY 10, WRITTEN ON BEHALF
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OF THE EC NINE NOW PRESIDED OVER BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC,
JUST BEFORE I LEFT WASHINGTON ON JULY 12 FOR AN OFFICIAL
TRIP TO SOUTH AMERICA, AND I WISHED TO PROVIDE AT LEAST
A BRIEF REPLY BEFORE WE MEET IN NEW YORK ON AUGUST 21.

FIRST, I SHOULD NOTE THAT MANY OF THE CONCERNS OF THE
NINE WITH RESPECT TO THE NEED FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN

THE SEABEDS ARTICLES ARE SHARED BY THE US. I BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO MAKE CLEAR FOR THE RECORD IN NEW YORK THAT THE TEXTS THAT EMERGED FROM THE RECENT GENEVA MEETING ARE NEGOTIATING TEXTS AND NOTHING MORE, AND MOREOVER, THAT WE INTEND TO RETURN TO THEM AT A LATER DATE IN ORDER TO SEEK THE CHANGES NECESSARY TO AN EQUITABLE, ECONOMICALLY RATIONAL AND ENDURING SYSTEM FOR DEEP SEABED MINING. IF WE DO SO WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY AND FIRMNESS, THERE SHOULD BE NO RISK OF MISCONCEPTIONS OF OUR POSITION ON THE PART OF OTHERS. I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE THAT IN PUTTING THE CONFERENCE ON NOTICE THAT WE INTEND TO RETURN TO THE NJENGA TEXTS AT A LATER DATE, WE SHOULD DO SO IN A MANNER WHICH WILL NOT GIVE AN OPENING TO PAUL ENGO (OR OTHERS SO DISPOSED) TO ATTACK NJENGA'S NEGOTIATING METHOD OR DESTROY THOSE TEXTS AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION.

ONCE HAVING ACHIEVED THAT, I BELIEVE WE CAN SAFELY MOVE ON TO OTHER ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE ASPECTS OF ANNEX II NOT DISCUSSED IN GENEVA. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT OUR CRITICS IN INDUSTRY, WHILE UNHAPPY WITH THE GENEVA OUTCOME, HAVE FOCUSED THEIR FIRE ON THE INADEQUACY OF THE BASIC SYSTEM OF ACCESS, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THE SIXTH SESSION. IF WE CAN MANAGE TO MAKE MEASURABLE PROGRESS ON ANNEX II IN NEW YORK, WE WILL BE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO ASSESS TOGETHER WHAT ADDITIONAL WORK IS NEEDED ON THE NJENGA TEXTS, AND HOW TO

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ACHIEVE THE NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS.

I LOOK FORWARD TO CONFERRING WITH YOU SHORTLY AFTER WE ARRIVE IN NEW YORK, FOR I FULLY SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE NEED FOR FREQUENT AND THOROUGH CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE NINE AND THE US ON THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES. END TEXT.

3. FOR DEPT: ASSUME YOU ARE PASSING COPY OF WOLFF' LETTER TO ME TO AMEMBASSY BONN FOR INFO. CROWLEY UNQUOTE. VANCE

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NNN

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